GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:44
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2002
MIXTURE OF ETHANOL WITH PETROL
BRIJLAL KHABRI;VINAY KUMAR SORAKE

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have started trials with 10% ethanol mixed petrol and diesel as vehicular fuel in some of the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether mixing of 5% ethanol has been found successful ;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the time by which 10% ethanol mix petrol and diesel are likely to be supplied as vehicular fuel;

(f) whether the prices of petrol and diesel are likely to be reduced in the country on this account;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) whether sugar producing States are likely to be benefited by this mixing;

(i) if so, the details thereof;

(j) the extent to which this step will help conserve Oil reserves;

(k) whether the use of ethanol blended petrol and diesel will reduce the level of pollution; and

(l) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK)

(a) to (l): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (l) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION N0. 44 T(ANSWERED ON 21.11.2002 REGARDING MIXTURE OF ETHANOL WITH PETROL.

(a) to (l): In the year 2001 the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas decided to commission three Pilot Projects, one in the State of Uttar Pradesh and two in the State of Maharashtra, to examine environmental, operational, financial and other related aspects of blending 5% ethanol with petrol (Motor Spirit). Since the results of these projects were encouraging, the Government took a decision to mandatorily supply 5% ethanol blended petrol, with effect from 1.1.2003, in nine States and four contiguous Union Territories. The States are Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh and the Unior Territories are Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Chandigarh and Pondicherry.

For blending of ethanol to the extent of 10% with petrol, studies carried out by the R&D Centre of Indian Oil Corporation have found it feasible. Accordingly the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has been requested to amend the specification of petrol to allow blending of ethanol upto 10%. The Government have decided that after amendment of the specification, pilot projects on blending of ethanol in petrol to the extent of 10 % will be started at Miraj and Manmad, both in Maharashtra, and at Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh.

The price of blended petrol will be market driven depending on the respective prices of ethanol and petrol in the post Administered Price Mechanism (APM) scenario, i.e., after 1.4.2002.